NUMB. CCLXXXI.

The SPECTATOR.

Pectoribus inhians ſpirantia conſulit exta. Virg.

Tueſday, January 22. 1712.

HAVING already given an Account of the Diſſection of a *Beau's Head*, with the ſeveral Diſcoveries made on that Occaſion; I ſhall here, according to my Promiſe, enter upon the Diſſection of a *Coquet's Heart*, and communicate to the Publick ſuch Particularities as were obſerved in that curious Piece of Anatomy. I ſhould perhaps have waved this Undertaking, had not I been put in mind of my Promiſe by ſeveral of my unknown Correſpondents, who are very importunate with me to make an Example of the Coquet, as I have already done of the Beau. It is more in Compliance with the Requeſt of Friends, than to have looked over the Minutes of my former Diſſection in order to give the Publick an exact Relation of it, which I ſhall enter upon without further Preface.

The Operator, before he engaged in this Viſionary Diſſection, told us, that there was nothing in his whole Art more difficult, than to lay open the Heart of a Coquet, by reaſon of the many Labyrinths and Receſſes which are to be found in it, and which do not appear in the Heart of any other Animal.

He deſired us firſt of all to obſerve the *Pericardium*, or outward Caſe of the Heart, which we did very attentively; and by the help of our Glaſſes diſcovered in it Millions of little Scars, which ſeem'd to have been occaſioned by the Points of innumerable Darts and Arrows, that from time to time had been ſhot upon the outward Coat; though we could not diſcover the ſmalleſt Orifice, by which any of them had entered and pierced the inward Subſtance.

Every Smatterer in Anatomy knows, that this *Pericardium*, or Caſe of the Heart, contains in it a little reddiſh Liquor, ſuppoſed to be bred from the Vapours which exhale out of the Heart, and being condenſed here, are condenſed into this watry Subſtance. Upon examining this Liquor, we found that it had in it all the Qualities of that Spirit which is made uſe of in the Thermometer, to ſhew the Change of Weather.

Nor muſt I here omit an Experiment one of the Company aſſured us he himſelf had made with this Liquor, which he found in great quantity about the Heart of a Coquet whom he had formerly diſſected. He affirmed to us, that he had actually incloſed it in a ſmall Tube made after the manner of a Weather-Glaſs; but that inſtead of acquainting him with the Variations of the Atmoſphere, it ſhowed him the Qualities of thoſe Perſons who entered the Room where it ſtood. He affirmed alſo, that it roſe at the Approach of a Plume of Feathers, an embroidered Coat, or a Pair of fringed Gloves; and that it fell as ſoon as an ill-ſhaped Perriwig, a clumſy pair of Shoes, or an unfaſhionable Coat came into his Houſe: Nay, he proceeded ſo far as to aſſure us, that upon his Laughing aloud when he ſtood by it, the Liquor mounted very ſenſibly, and immediately ſunk again upon his looking ſerious. In ſhort, he told us, that he knew very well by this Invention whenever he had a Man of Senſe or a Coxcomb in his Room.

Having cleared away the *Pericardium*, or the Caſe and Liquor above-mentioned, we came to the Heart itſelf. The outward Surface of it was extremely ſlippery, and the *Mucro*, or Point, ſo very cold withal, that upon endeavouring to take hold of it, it glided through the Fingers like a ſmooth piece of Ice.

The Fibres were turned and twiſted in a more intricate and perplexed manner than they are uſually found in other Hearts; inſomuch, that the whole Heart was wound up together like a Gordian Knot, and muſt have had very irregular and unequal Motions, whilſt it was employed in its Vital Function.

One thing we thought very obſervable, namely, that upon examining all the Veſſels which came into it or iſſued out of it, we could not diſcover any Communication that it had with the Tongue.

We could not but take Notice likewiſe, that ſeveral of thoſe little Nerves in the Heart which are affected by the Sentiments of Love, Hatred, and other Paſſions, did not deſcend to this before us from the Brain, but from the Muſcles which lie about the Eye.

Upon weighing the Heart in my Hand, I found it to be extreamly light, and conſequently very hollow, which I did not wonder at when upon looking into the Inſide of it, I ſaw Multitudes of Cells and Cavities running one within another, as our Hiſtorians deſcribe the Appartments of *Roſamond*'s Bower. Several of theſe little Hollows were ſtuffed with innumerable ſorts of Trifles, which I ſhall forbear giving any particular Account of, and ſhall therefore only take Notice of what lay firſt and uppermoſt, which upon our unfolding it and applying our Miſcroſcope to it appeared to be a Flame-coloured Hood.

We

We were informed that the Lady of this Heart, when living, received the Addreſſes of ſeveral who made Love to her, and did not only give each of them Encouragement, but made every one ſhe converſed with believe that ſhe regarded him with an Eye of Kindneſs; for which Reaſon we expected to have ſeen the Impreſſion of Multitudes of Faces among the ſeveral Plaites and Foldings of the Heart, but to our great Surprize not a ſingle Print of this nature diſcovered it ſelf till we came into the very Core and Center of it. We there obſerved a little Figure, which, upon applying our Glaſſes to it, appeared dreſſed in a very Fantaſtick manner. The more I looked upon it, the more I thought I had ſeen the Face before, but could not poſſibly recollect either the Place or Time; when at length one of the Company, who had examined this Figure more nicely than the reſt, ſhew'd us plainly by the make of its Face, and the ſeveral turns of its Features, that the little Idol which was thus lodged in the very Middle of the Heart was the Deceaſed Beau, whoſe Head I gave ſome Account of in my laſt *Tueſday*'s Paper.

As ſoon as we had finiſhed our Diſſection, we reſolved to make an Experiment of the Heart, not being able to determine among our ſelves the Nature of its Subſtance, which differed in ſo many Particulars from that of the Heart in other Females. Accordingly we laid it into a Pan of burning Coals, when we obſerved in it a certain Salamandrine Quality, that made it capable of living in the midſt of Fire and Flame, without being conſum'd, or ſo much as ſindged.

As we were admiring this ſtrange *Phænomenon*, and ſtanding round the Heart in a Circle, it gave a moſt prodigious Sigh or rather Crack, and diſperſed all at once in Smoke and Vapour. This imaginary Noiſe, which methoughts was louder than the burſt of a Cannon, produced ſuch a violent Shake in my Brain, that it diſſipated the Fumes of Sleep, and left me in an inſtant broad awake.

The First and Second Volumes of the SPECTATOR *in* 8vo *are now ready to be delivered to the Subſcribers, by* J. Tonſon *at* Shakeſpear's *Head over-againſt* Catherine-ſtreet *in the* Strand.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Never Acted but twice.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent Tueſday, the 22d Day of January, will be preſented a New Comedy call'd The Perplex'd Lovers. By her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes. Note, The Author's Tickets that were given out for Monday will be taken this Day.

Brook and Hellier, &c. having diſcovered that ſeveral Gentlemens Servants who have been ſent to their Taverns and Cellars for neat Oporto Wine (which is 18 d. per Quart) have inſtead thereof bought the ſmall Vina, which is but 15 d. a Quart; and that ſome who have been ſent directly to the aforeſaid Taverns and Cellars, have never come there, but carried Home (like Traitors) ſomething elſe from other Places for Brook and Hellier's. Gentlemen are therefore deſired, when they ſuſpect themſelves impoſed on, to ſend the Wine immediately to the Place they ordered it from, or a Note of what it was they ſent for, in order to know the Truth, and Brook and Hellier will pay the extraordinary Charge of Porterage on ſuch Occaſion. Note, At the BUMPER Tavern in Covent-Garden every Bottle of Port Wine ſent out is ſealed upon the Cork with the Impreſſion by Anthony; as is likewiſe his French Wine imported by Monſieur Tourton, Sold within and without at 4 s. full Quart.

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A Print of the Right Honourable John Lord Somers Baron of Evesham, Engraved from a Painting lately done by Sir Godfrey Kneller. By George Vertue, Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head over-againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

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To be Sold at the Bookſeller's Warehouſe in Exeter Exchange in the Strand, a curious Collection of Books in all Languages and Faculties, amongſt which are Cooper's Anatomy, large Paper, and a Natural Herbal, with many hundred Manuſcript Sermons and other valuable Manuſcripts, and a curious Collection of Pamphlets and Books of Prints, relating to the Roman Antiquities, with the Price of each Book in the firſt blank Leaf, to begin this Day, and will continue 'till all be Sold. N. B. There are all Biſhop Beveridge's Works in all Languages, and ready Money for any Library or parcel of Books.

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